

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims.

1-41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient having an injury to or a disorder of an eye, said injury or disorder comprising degeneration of a photoreceptor cell, said method comprising administering to a patient a polypeptide comprising amino acids 108 to 188 of SEQ ID NO:2, which includes the eight conserved cysteines at amino acids 108, 133, 139, 142, 143, 150, 186 and 188 in an amount sufficient to proliferate photoreceptor cells.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a water soluble polymer.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the water soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a sustained-release pharmaceutical composition.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a topical pharmaceutical composition.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide is administered as an oral pharmaceutical composition.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a parenteral pharmaceutical composition.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide is administered at a dose between about 0.005 mg/kg and about 50 mg/kg body weight.

51. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 50, wherein the polypeptide is administered at a dose between about 0.05 mg/kg and about 5 mg/kg body weight.
52. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 80 to 202 of SEQ ID NO:2.
53. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 52, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a water soluble polymer.
54. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 53, wherein the water soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol.
55. **(Canceled)**
56. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 52, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a sustained-release pharmaceutical composition.
57. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 52, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a topical pharmaceutical composition.
58. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 52, wherein the polypeptide is administered as an oral pharmaceutical composition.
59. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 52, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a parenteral pharmaceutical composition.
60. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 52, wherein the polypeptide is administered at a dose between about 0.005 mg/kg and about 50 mg/kg body weight.

61. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 60, wherein the polypeptide is administered at a dose between about 0.05 mg/kg and about 5 mg/kg body weight.
62. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide comprises amino acids 9 to 396 of SEQ ID NO:2.
63. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 62, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a water soluble polymer.
64. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 63, wherein the water soluble polymer is polyethylene glycol.
65. **(Canceled)**
66. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 62, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a sustained-release pharmaceutical composition.
67. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 62, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a topical pharmaceutical composition.
68. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 62, wherein the polypeptide is administered as an oral pharmaceutical composition.
69. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 62, wherein the polypeptide is administered as a parenteral pharmaceutical composition.
70. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 62, wherein the polypeptide is administered at a dose between about 0.005 mg/kg and about 50 mg/kg body weight.
71. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 70, wherein the polypeptide is administered at a dose between about 0.05 mg/kg and about 5 mg/kg body weight.

72. (Canceled)

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the injury or disorder is selected from the group consisting of age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, peripheral vitreoretinopathies, photic retinopathies, surgery-induced retinopathies, viral retinopathies, ischemic retinopathies, retinal detachment and traumatic retinopathy.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the injury or disorder is selected from the group consisting of age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, peripheral vitreoretinopathies, photic retinopathies, surgery-induced retinopathies, viral retinopathies, ischemic retinopathies, retinal detachment and traumatic retinopathy.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the injury or disorder is selected from the group consisting of age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, peripheral vitreoretinopathies, photic retinopathies, surgery-induced retinopathies, viral retinopathies, ischemic retinopathies, retinal detachment and traumatic retinopathy.

76. (Canceled)